

THE COPPER ERA

AND MORENCI LEADER

The Oldest Copper Pro-
ducing District in the
State of Arizona.

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LONG STRIKE IN DISTRICT IS ENDED
BY VOTE OF FORMER EMPLOYEESWORK IS RESUMED
BY THREE LARGE
COMPANIESProposition Submitted by Mine Man-
agers Through Henry Hill and R.
R. Webster is Accepted—Federal
Investigators Urge Men To Return
To Work in Mass Meetings.

MINE MANAGERS BACK HOME

Settlement of Strike is Welcome
News Throughout The District—
Everybody at Work Again and
More Men Wanted.

The strike called by Guy E. Miller, member of the executive board and organizer of the Western Federation of Miners, to which a large majority of the employees of the Shannon Copper Co., The Detroit Copper Mining Company and the Arizona Copper Company, Ltd., responded on September 11th, 1915, was terminated this week.

As the Era goes to press Friday evening industrial conditions in the district are rapidly assuming a normal condition. The whistles at the various hoists, mills and smelters at Clifton, Morenci and Metcalf have been calling the men back to work since Wednesday morning. The arrival of the afternoon train brings groups of former employees from Duncan and other points who left the district during the strike. The managers of the three mining companies, Norman Carmichael, Milton H. McLean and J. W. Bennie, accompanied by J. Pentland and W. E. Miller, directors of the Arizona Copper Company, Ltd.; A. T. Thomson, Assistant General Manager of Phelps-Dodge & Co.; and E. E. Ellinwood, General Counsel of Phelps, Dodge & Co., arrived in the district on Wednesday evening. At the close of the week not less than 2000 men are again on the pay roll of the three companies. This number will reach approximately five thousand in the next thirty days and at the present price of copper all of them receiving better wages than at any time in the history of the district.

The settlement of the strike was brought about directly through the acceptance by the men of the mine manager's proposition handed to Messrs. Henry Hill and R. R. Webster in El Paso on January 8th. This proposition was brought to Clifton on Sunday evening, January 9th and in brief was as follows:

1. Surrender of Charters of Western Federation of Miners and removal of influence of outside agitators.
2. All workmen employed to receive full and adequate protection.
3. No discrimination against any individual of any nationality except those guilty of violence during the strike and this number not to exceed ten in the three camps.
4. Managers agree to meet committees of their employees with a view of adjusting any grievances or considering any questions which the employees wish to bring up, the intention of the managers being to make conditions as satisfactory as possible for the employees.

The men returned to work on the old scale of wages advanced to include copper selling at 24c. At this price the men will receive wages for the principal classes of labor as follows:

Occupation	Hrs.	Per Hour	Per Shift
Miners	7-12	45½	3.41
Muckers & Trammers	7-12	36	2.70
Timbermen	7-12	47	3.52
Laborers (surface)	8	31½	2.52
Charge-wheelers	8	33½	2.68
Skimmers	8	51½	4.12
Punchers	8	40	3.20
Laborers	8	31½	2.52
Carpenters and Electricians	8	62½	5.00
Machinists and Boilermakers	8	66½	5.22

Other classes of labor in proportion.
The End in Sight.

Upon the return of Henry Hill and Reece Webster from El Paso on January 9th bearing the statement from the managers, and following a conference with Sheriff Cash, also former employees who had served in an official capacity during the strike, a persistent rumor was in circulation that the end of the strike was in sight.

Sheriff Cash and Messrs. Webster and Hill continued their efforts during the week toward an acceptance of the proposition submitted by the managers. An objection was raised by the strikers to the importation of the former employees who had been in the company camp at Duncan. At a meeting held in the district on Monday the 17th inst., the men accepted the proposition from the managers with the proviso that the refugees from Duncan should not be brought to the district until a conference between the strikers and the managers had been concluded, said conference to begin within fifteen days after operations had been resumed. This proviso was wired the managers and promptly refused.

Later in the week as a result of the efforts of the mediators the proviso was amended, agreeing to the return of the refugees provided they were moved in gradually and not brought to the camp immediately in a body. This proposition was presented to the managers last Friday and while awaiting a response Messrs. Davies and Myers, the two representatives of the Department of Labor, who have spent the past ten weeks in an investigation of labor conditions here, arrived in the district.

The investigators arrived in El Paso from a trip to the east where they accompanied Mr. Powell, who assisted in the organization of the district at the beginning of the strike. Mr. Powell's mission to the east was to secure financial assistance to prolong the strike, but met with failure. Upon the arrival of Messrs. Davies and Myers at El Paso they called upon the mine managers and were handed a copy of the statement made to Messrs. Hill and Webster and at the same time were informed of the efforts already made by them to bring about a settlement of the strike. The investigators returned to the Sheldon Hotel and after going over the statement from the managers, and being fully informed as to the financial condition of the strikers, and the refusal of labor organizations throughout the country to support same, again called upon the managers and informed them that they (the investigators) were ready and willing to advise and urge the former employees of the companies to accept the proposition. Upon this statement from the investigators the managers requested them to proceed to Clifton at once.

Upon their arrival here Messrs. Davies and Myers went into conference with Messrs. Hill and Webster, Sheriff Cash, and former employees who were on strike, with the result that mass meetings were called in the district for last Sunday and Monday in Clifton, Morenci and Metcalf, to listen to a statement from the Federal investigators and take a vote on the Hill-Webster proposition from the managers.

The Mass Meetings.
On Sunday afternoon the Princess Theatre was crowded to the doors by former employees of the Shannon and Arizona Copper Co. Ltd., residing in Clifton, to listen to the Federal investigators.

John L. Donnelly, Vice-President of the State Federation of Labor, who has been directing the strike since the expulsion of the Western Federation of Miners, was the first speaker. Mr. Donnelly told the men that he had been over the proposition submitted through Messrs. Hill and Webster; that the matter was one for settlement by the men themselves, and that he would not advise them one way or the other. He said the weapon of starvation had been used in this strike and that his hearers knew how many notches they had been compelled to draw in their belts. He was of the opinion that the proposition was

one that should not be accepted but the men must be the judges. In any event, he said, the long struggle had taught one lesson—that the workers in the days of peace should prepare for something better. Explaining the lack of financial aid he said that help had not come in because the workers in the district for the past twenty-five years had not assisted organized labor in other sections. He urged upon the men the importance of maintaining their organization and said if this was their purpose in the future to weigh well the statement made by the managers as through organization the men can command more respect in the future for their grievances.

Investigators Urge Acceptance.

Mr. Hywell Davies, Federal Investigator, followed Mr. Donnelly. He said in part:

"Mr. Myers and myself came into this district ten weeks ago as representatives of the Department of Labor and we have returned to the district at this time as peace makers. Our mission here is to establish peace and to do nothing but what is fair, right and just."

"During our several visits here we have examined more than a hundred witnesses. We have listened to the tales of woe and heard your complaints. These we have conveyed to the mine managers where they received a most respectful hearing. We have discussed these matters with them for days and days. Having gone over the entire situation, listening likewise to statements from the managers, being in possession of real facts, we have reached a conclusion."

"We have found out just what means have been behind your fight and your ability to continue it. We have gone to Washington and Indianapolis to find out if additional means would be forthcoming. The situation appears to us serious. We tell you the sinews of war are not forthcoming. By reason of the action of Guy Miller, who called this strike in your district without authority from his executive board, no organization of an international character, will help you. No labor organization will make any assessment for you. Isn't it wise, under these circumstances, to face the issue squarely. If you continue this strike it must be on your own resources except such contributions that can be raised by Mr. Donnelly, and let me tell you that most of the treasures of labor organizations in Arizona today are bankrupt. After our investigation we found that probably \$5,000 a month is all that you can expect and we believe the best thing for you to do is to compromise, and in urging this action on your part we wish you to understand that the investigators of the Department of Labor bow the knee to no side."

"As a result of our investigation I want to say to you men that there will be no more buying jobs in this district; no more fake rallies. Your committees will be received with courtesy. The thing to do now is to clean the slate and forget the past. I believe your managers realize that you and them have been too far apart in the past. On your part you have accomplished a brotherhood in this district which you never had before."

Mr. Davies then outlined the manner of selection of the grievance committees from the employees which committee was to meet with the respective managers at least once each month and assured the men that the managers meant every word contained in their statement addressed to Messrs. Hill and Webster. In conclusion Mr. Davies said:

"Having investigated this question from all sides I see in this document (the statement from the managers) the machinery for your gradual betterment. This is the best proposition you can get. The sooner you go to work the better. That is our candid opinion and that is our advice to you."

Mr. Davies was followed by Mr. Myers who prefaced his remarks with the statement that for fifteen years past he had been an active and conscientious member of organized labor and that he owed his present official position to that influence and that he would be a scoundrel and an ingrate

if he did anything or countenanced any action which would be to the detriment of organized labor. Mr. Meyers stated that he had canvassed every phase of the situation, had conferred with all of the leaders of the movement and concluded:

"I speak from an honest heart when I recommend to you the adoption of this proposition without any changes under the present conditions. I add my voice to that of my colleague in urging upon you its acceptance. It is for the best interests for yourselves and all concerned."

A resolution was then introduced favoring a return to work under the proposition as submitted. A number of men wanted more time to study the proposition and to consult with the employees at Morenci and Metcalf. The executive committee thought it best to vote on the motion immediately and upon a vote being taken the resolution was defeated by a majority of twenty-eight votes. Immediately following the announcement of the vote it was decided to hold another meeting at union headquarters on Monday night. At which meeting the Clifton employees voted unanimously to accept the proposition of the managers.

Messrs. Davies and Myers went to Metcalf Monday morning at ten o'clock where a mass meeting was held and the proposition from the managers outlined to the employees in that camp. Without much loss of time following the talk of Messrs. Davies and Meyers the men voted unanimously to return to work.

This was followed by similar action on the part of the Morenci men at two o'clock Monday afternoon and at Clifton at seven o'clock in the evening. By a vote of the strikers the long struggle was at an end.

At Morenci on Monday Mr. Donnelly advised the men to return to work and also stated that he was just in receipt of a telephone message from Brother Powell recommending that the men accept the proposition from the managers.

Everybody Happy.

The result of the mass meetings held on Monday spread throughout the district rapidly. "Well, I'm glad it's all over," was the universal expression heard on every hand. At the conclusion of the mass meeting in Morenci the old skating rink rang with the cheers of the men as they jumped to their feet and waved their hats in the air. When the whistle on Shannon Hill called the men back to work Wednesday morning the men gathered and indulged in an impromptu celebration.

Business men have been keeping the wires hot since Wednesday ordering supplies and the camps in the district are again presenting their usual spectacle of activity and industry.

SWIMMER DARES
GILA FLOOD TO
LAY WIRESCorpstein Undertakes to Swim
Stream and Establish Communication for the City of Phoenix.

PHOENIX, Jan. 25.—In a desperate effort to restore wire communication across the Gila river, William Corpstein, known as the best swimmer and diver in Arizona, has left to make an effort to swim the swollen stream and to carry a line across by which the wires may be drawn over.

The work is being undertaken jointly, it is stated by the Western Union Telegraph company and the Mountain States Telephone & Telegraph company. The lines of both concerns across the Gila went down with the destruction of the bridge, and no boat can live for a moment in the boiling floods.

Corpstein volunteered to make the attempt and claimed, it is said, that the flood had no terrors for him and that he would get a line across if human skill and strength could turn the trick.

He was famous for his high diving exploits when the pool at Riverside was full of water instead of sand and mud as at this time.

Diak Wall, driver for the Cansler & Albrecht stage line, is expected back in Clifton the first of the week when he will resume his former run between Clifton and Morenci.

ATTORNEY GENERAL
AGAINST PRIZE
FIGHTAttorney General of State Gives
Opinion On Question to Oatman
Fight Fans.

Any lack of definiteness about Arizona's laws regarding pugilistic exhibitions was ended yesterday when Attorney General Wiley Jones construed the law for Governor Hunt, in order that the promoters of the Oatman district might know. As a result, the bout between Jess Willard, heavyweight champion of the world, and Fulton, a pretender to the crown, proposed to be held at Oatman on July 4 next, is off.

Governor Hunt had the law looked into at the request of the Mohave Miner which, in behalf of the men who proposed to stage the go, desired a real and understandable construction of Arizona's laws.

About three years ago, when Geo. Memsic and Herbert Gorcister were staging light and welterweight matches here, The Republican secured from the then county attorney, Frank H. Lyman, the statement that boxing matches were being held at the risk of the promoters and principals. Although the law at that time had not been interpreted very clearly, it was in Mr. Lyman's mind that a householder might prosecute by means of a complaint of disturbing the peace. The result was that boxing matches were discontinued, and no public or even semi-public set-toes have occurred in Phoenix for a long time.

Mr. Jones' decision means that there is yet vitality in the old territorial law prohibiting boxing matches, prize fights and the like.

CANNOT ARREST RANDOLPH.

PHOENIX, Jan. 14.—Federal judge William Sawtelle today granted a temporary order restraining the corporation commission from bringing criminal contempt proceedings against Col. Epes Randolph, president of the Arizona Eastern railroad. It does not apply, however, to the attorney general or county attorneys.

Last May the commission called for certain data in regard to passenger business which was not furnished by the Arizona Eastern. An order fining the company \$5000 for contempt was issued in November and the commissioners asked the attorney general to bring criminal proceedings against the president.

INCREASED GOLD OUTPUT IN 1915

Value of Production Nearly \$99,000,000

In the joint statement given out by the United States Geological Survey and the Bureau of the Mint the value of new gold added to the home supply from mills and smelters operating on domestic ores (including those of Alaska, the Philippines, and Porto Rico) in 1915 was \$98,891,100. This shows the substantial increase of \$4,359,300 over the output of \$94,531,800 in 1914, and was within \$782,300 of the record production of \$99,673,400 in 1909.

The gold mining industry was generally prosperous again in 1915, according to figures compiled by H. D. McCaskey, of the United States Geological Survey, from preliminary reports received from the mines. Estimates made from these figures, which represent ores sold or treated during the year, as distinguished from the output, was even higher, and that it approached, if it did not actually pass the \$100,000,000 mark; but some of the ore and concentrates produced from the mines and mills can not be smelted until 1916, and the refined gold did not become available for consumption in 1915.

An increase in the yield of gold is indicated by the mine returns from every important gold mining State and a decrease is reported only from Washington, while the output of Idaho remains the same. The principal increases were reported from Oregon, South Dakota and Arizona.

In Utah, over \$480,000 in Nevada, and over \$300,000 in New Mexico. Smaller

Among the Clifton visitors from Morenci Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Dutton, Mrs. Peters and Prof. C. A. Goggia.

MOTHER AND BABY
DROWNED IN BLUE
JANUARY 16Horse Is Washed Down Stream—
Body of Mrs. Reynolds Recovered
By Searching Party—Mother and
Father of Drowned Woman Come
to Clifton.

A communication received from the ranch of J. H. T. Cosper by the Era this week gives the sad account of the drowning of Mrs. Della Reynolds and baby, nineteen months old, in the Blue River on January 16th. The fatal accident occurred three miles below the ranch of J. H. T. Cosper.

Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds and their three little children were residents of Luna, New Mexico. They had been on a holiday visit to the parents of Mrs. Reynolds, Mr. and Mrs. Isaacs, at Animas, New Mexico, and were on their way back to Luna, traveling up the Blue in a wagon, when they encountered the "high water."

They were compelled to abandon their wagon at the Baseline Ranger Station and attempted to make the remainder of the journey on horseback. While crossing the Blue a short distance below the Cosper ranch, the horse carrying Mrs. Reynolds and the youngest child in some way fell in the water and before Mr. Reynolds could give assistance the horse, wife and baby were swept down the river.

Mr. Reynolds later saw the horse some distance below, washed out on a sand bar. Mr. Reynolds took the remaining little children and made for the Cosper ranch with the sad news. J. H. T. Cosper and his two sons, Dewitt and Wain, and D. Hale and two Mexicans, started in haste for the place. In the meantime the river was rising rapidly. In making a close search they found the horse about one-half mile below and about one mile further on found the body of Mrs. Reynolds. By this time it was 4 o'clock and pouring down rain, and the river rising so rapidly that it was impossible to make a further search for the child.

Mr. Cosper managed to get the body of the drowned woman to his ranch, about 6 o'clock by swimming several places.

The river continued to rise for three days which rendered it impossible to make any search for the child which will very likely never be found.

Mrs. Reynolds was buried at the Cosper ranch on January 18th, by the request of her husband.

Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Isaacs, of Animas, New Mexico, arrived in Clifton last week, intending to continue on up the Blue, on a search for the body of the drowned child, but the continued inclement weather and the high water in the river prevented them from doing so. Mr. and Mrs. Isaacs returned to their home on Friday morning. Before doing so Mr. Isaacs called at the Era office to express through the columns of this paper the heartfelt thanks of himself and wife to the good people on the Blue who rendered every assistance possible following the accident and also to the people of Clifton for their many kindnesses during their stay in our midst.

Leaves for New Home—

Mr. and Mrs. E. Leland and children left for their new home near Benson Wednesday. Mr. Leland is superintendent of the American Tungsten Company, whose properties are located about 12 miles from Benson and in the future they will make their home at the mines where a handsome new residence has been erected for them.

Federation Officer Here—

Robt. R. Bliss, Vice-President of the Arizona State Federation of Labor, who calls Clifton his home although located at present at Lordsburg, arrived in Clifton this week in the interest of the State Federation of Labor, relieving Vice-President John L. Donnelly, who paid a visit to Miami, returning to the district this evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Quinn arrived in Clifton this week from El Paso. They expect to remain for some time visiting with friends.